

THE PRINCIPAL  
A C T S  
OF THE  
General Assembly  
OF THE  
C H U R C H  
OF  
S C O T L A N D,

Conveened at *Edinburgh* the 14th Day of May, 1730.

*Collected and Extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.*



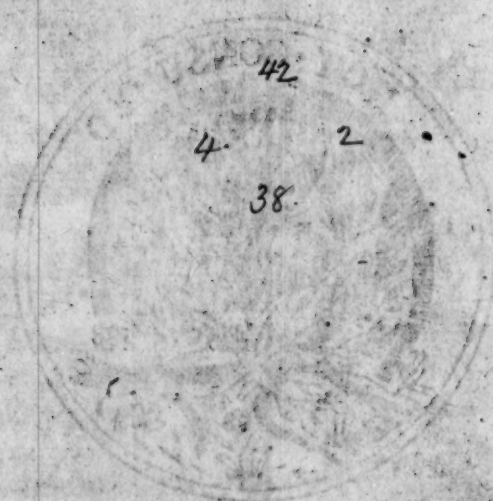
E D I N B U R G H :

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A. C. F. S.

CHURCH

1838



THE PRINCIPAL

## ACTS

Of the General Assembly of the  
Church of Scotland.Holden and begun at *Edinburgh* upon *Thursday* the 14th, and  
ending the 26th Days of *May*, 1730.

I.

*The KING's Commission to Hugh Earl of  
Loudon, produced and ordered to be re-  
corded.*At *Edinburgh*, 14th May 1730, Sess. 1.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conven'd and constituted, there was produced to them by the Right Honourable *Hugh Earl of Loudon*, His Majesty's Commissioner, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union betwixt the two Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *England*, to be kept and used in *Scotland* in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him his Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly, which Commission, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted by his Majesty to his Lordship in the Year 1728, was publickly read with all due Honour and Respect, and ordered to be recorded in the Books of Assembly.

II. *The*



## II

*The KING's most Gracious Letter to the  
General Assembly, presented to them by  
His Majesty's Commissioner, May 14th,  
1730. Sess. I.*

GEORGE R.



RIGHT Reverend, and Well-beloved, We greet you well. We do with great Pleasure take this Opportunity of expressing to you our Satisfaction with the Wise and Prudent Conduct of your former Assemblies; and as we make no doubt but you come together with the same Dispositions and Intentions to direct all your Proceedings, to the Honour and Glory of God, the Advancement of our Service, the Prosperity of the Church of which you are Members, and the Good of your Country, We very willingly approve and countenance with Our Royal Authority this your present Meeting, and renew the Assurances We have formerly given you, of Our unalterable Resolution to maintain that Church, as it is established by Law in Scotland, in the full and perfect Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

The great and desirable Ends for which you are now assembled, being chiefly to consult upon the Measures that may best conduce to the Peace and Welfare of the Church, the Advancement of Piety and Virtue, the preventing of the Growth of Popery, and the suppressing of Prophaneness and Immorality, are what will constantly meet with Our Countenance and Encouragement; You may always be assured of Our Approbation and Concurrence in whatever may effectually answer these good Purposes, and of Our Favour and Protection, as we on our Part are fully perswaded of your Zeal and Affection for Our Person and Government, and for the Protestant Succession in our Royal Family.

You cannot but be so sensible how much the Success of your Councils will depend upon your Wisdom and Unanimity, that We make no doubt but in all your Debates, you will pre-  
serve



serve that Moderation, Charity and brotherly Love, which become so Venerable a Body.

The long Experience you have had of the Capacity and Abilities of Our Right Trusty, and entirely beloved Cousin and Counsellor, *Hugh Earl of Loudoun*, will, we doubt not, render the Choice very agreeable to you, which We have made of him to represent Our Royal Person in this Assembly, being induced thereto, by the Knowledge We have of his Loyalty and Zeal for Our Service, of his Affection and Concern for the Church of *Scotland*, and of his Qualifications for the Discharge of so great a Trust, in which the Prudence that will prevail in all your Consultations, will be a great Assistance to him. And so, We bid you heartily Farewel. Given at Our Court at *St. James's* the Ninth Day of *April* 1730, in the Third Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the KING's most Gracious Letter.

Edinburgh, May 16. 1730. Sess. 3.

May it please your Majesty,



HE repeated Assurances and frequent Instances of Your Majesty's Royal Favour and Countenance, renew'd in Your Majesty's most Gracious Letter, with which we are honour'd at this Time, next to the Favour of our God, gives us the greatest Joy.

Your Majesty's Royal Approbation, in so full a Manner of the Conduct of former General Assemblies of this Church, the Countenance which Your Majesty with so much Pleasure graciously gives to our present Meeting, and Your Majesty's unalterable Resolution to maintain this Church, as it is established by Law, in the full and perfect Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges, bring us under the strongest Obligation to be of the same Dispositions and Intentions as former Assemblies have been, and to direct all our Proceedings to the Glory of

B

God

God, the Advancement of Your Majesty's Service, the Prosperity of the Church, and the Good of the Country.

We beg Leave with all Humility, to express our grateful Acknowledgment of the Assurances which Your Majesty is pleased to give us of Your Royal Favour and Protection, in the Prosecution of such Measures as may best conduce to these great Ends of our Meeting, the Peace and Welfare of the Church, the Advancement of Piety and Virtue, the preventing the Growth of Popery, and the suppressing of Prophaneness and Immorality. And we esteem in our great Happiness, that Your Majesty is so fully persuaded of our Zeal and Affection for Your Majesty's Person and Government, and for the Protestant Succession in Your Royal Family, to which we are bound by the strongest Ties. We are deeply sensible, that the preserving that Unanimity, Moderation, Charity and brotherly Love, which become such an Assembly, in all our Debates, is so necessary, that the Success of our Counsels does entirely depend upon it, and we should be inexcusable if we did not endeavour it to the utmost of our Power.

We have had so many Proofs of the Capacity and Abilities of the Earl of *Loudoun*, and his Qualifications for the Discharge of so great a Trust, of his Zeal for Your Majesty's Service, and his Affection and Concern for this Church, as render your Majesty's Choice of him to represent your Royal Person in this General Assembly most agreeable to us; and we esteem it an Evidence of Your Majesty's Royal Goodness to this Church, and shall reckon it our Happiness, if by the Prudence which shall prevail in our Consultations we can be assisting to him.

We humbly presume to take this Opportunity of acknowledging, with the greatest Thankfulness, Your Majesty's Royal Bounty, in renewing Your pious and charitable Donation for Reformation of the *Higblands* and *Islands*; it is with great Pleasure that we can assure Your Majesty, that the Application thereof in former Years hath produced very good Effects, and we hope it shall still produce more; and for that End it shall be our Care faithfully to employ it to the good and laudable Purposes for which Your Majesty hath been pleased to grant it, and in an exact Conformity to Your Majesty's Royal Orders.

May our Gracious God, who hath placed Your Majesty upon the Throne of Your Ancestors, as a great Blessing to these Your Dominions, and to all the Protestant Churches, long preserve You to reign over us, and bless Your Counsels for the publick Good, with much Prosperity and Success. May He long preserve and abundantly bless Your Royal Consort the Queen, his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, and all the Royal Family; and after a long and happy Reign on Earth,



may He bless You with a Crown of Glory in Heaven; and may there never be wanting a Prince of Your Royal House to sway the Scepter over us. These are, and shall be the Prayers of,

*May it please Your Majesty,*

*Your Majesty's most Faithful, most Obedient,  
and most Loyal Subjects,*

*The Ministers and Elders met in  
the National Assembly of the  
Church of SCOTLAND.*

*Signed in our Name, in our Presence,  
and at our Appointment, by*

**WILL. HAMILTON** Moderator.

#### IV

**ACT concerning the Management of the  
King's Royal Bounty for Reformation of  
the Highlands and Islands of Scot-  
land.**

*Edinburgh, May 1730.*



THE General Assembly did approve of the Rules laid down by the Committee of the last Assembly for managing His Majesty's Bounty for Reformation of the *Highlands and Islands*, in their Letter to *Presbyteries*, for the regular Distribution of the foresaid Bounty, and do appoint all concerned, hereafter punctually to observe the same; particularly the Assembly ordains the several *Presbyteries* to insert in their Registers the Committee's Appointments of the Designations, Salaries, and Stations of the respective *Missionaries*, and enjoins them to have an exact Regard thereto, in all the Letters that they shall write about the said *Missionaries*, and in giving of their Certificates to them. And the Assembly also appoints, the several *Presbyteries* to di-



rest all their Letters concerning Missionaries in their Bounds, only to the Moderator of the Committee, and ordains, that the said Letters be signed at the Appointment of the Presbytery by the Moderator or Clerk thereof. And the General Assembly does discharge for the future, any Payments to be made of the Salaries of Missionaries, except upon Receipts from the Missionaries themselves, and upon Certificates from Presbyteries, bearing, that they have served the Time mentioned in the Receipts, yet reserving Liberty to the Committee when they first employ Missionaries to allow them, upon their own Receipts as above, one Quarter's Salary, *per advance*, if they find it necessary; provided always, that before the said new Missionaries receive their second Quarter, they produce Certificates of their Service for the whole half Year preceeding. And the General Assembly likewise appoints, that all the Committee's Accounts with their Cashier be duly signed and attested, and immediately thereafter recorded in the Book prepared for that Effect; and in Regard the Barons of His Majesty's Exchequer, did upon the 7th of July 1729, allow Twenty five Pounds *Sterl. per annum* of the Expences in managing the Royal Bounty, to be for the future stated in the Accompts thereof that shall be laid before them; Therefore the General Assembly declares the Churches annual Allowance of Five hundred Pounds *Sterl.* to be in so far relieved of the Burden laid upon it by the Act of the last Assembly, dated the 13th Day of May 1729, *post merid.* And the Assembly appoints a particular Account of all Money disbursed in managing the foresaid Bounty, to be annually stated by the Committee, and laid with their Report before the Assembly, for their Approbation, and this without Prejudice to the other Heads of the foresaid Act of Assembly, which the General Assembly appoints to take Effect, according to the Committee's Acts dated August 25th, 1725, and May 9th, 1726, approved in the subsequent Assemblies.

HE General Assembly did approve of the Rules laid down by the Committee of the last Assembly for managing His Majesty's Bounty for Reformation of the Negroes and Women in their Letter to the Presbyteries, for the regular Distribution of the foresaid Bounty, and do appoint all concerned, hereafter punctually to observe the same; particularly the Assembly ordains the several Presbyteries to insert in their Registers the Committee's Apportionments of the Delegations, Salaries, and Stations of the respective Missionaries, and causing them to have an exact Record thereof, in all the Letters that they shall write about the said Missionaries, and in giving of their Certificates to them. And the Assembly also appoints the several Presbyteries to di-

## V.

## Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for discussing divers Affairs referred to them.

At Edinburgh, May 23. 1730. ante merid. Sess. 14.



THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration, that there are divers weighty Affairs, which they cannot overtake, so as to determine therein themselves for Want of Time, do therefore nominate, commissionate and appoint the Rev. Mr *William Hamilton* Professor of Divinity in the College of Edinburgh their Moderator, Masters *Hugh Innes* at Mortlith, *John Ramsay* at Cairhey, *James Chapman* at Cromdale, *John Paul* at Rothes, *Joseph Sanderson* at Elgin, *James Dunbar* at Duffus, *James Gordon* at Kinloss, *John Crockett* at Dallas, *Alexander McBean* at Inverness, *Lauchlan Schaw* at Calder, *George Gordon* at Cromarty, *Alexander Reay* at Avoch, *Hugh Monro* at Tain, *Robert Monro* at Kincardine, *Thomas Chisholm* at Kilmarock, *John Morison* at Urray, *Thomas Frazer* at Boleskine, *Donald McLeod* at Strath, *Aulay McAulay* at Harris, *Murdo McLeod* at Glenelg, *Robert Kirk* at Dornoch, *Francis Robertson* at Clyne, *Andrew Robertson* at Farr, *William Innes* at Thurso, *William McBeath* at Olrig, *John Keith* at Walls, *Thomas Baikie* at Kirkwall, *Hugh Morat* at Evie, *Thomas Co-vingtrie* at Sanday, *William Gifford* at Northmaving, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *James Smith* at Cramond, *William Gusthart* at Edinburgh, *John Walker* at Canongate, *Robert Kinloch* at Edinburgh, *James Stevenson* at South-leith, *Matthew Crawford* Professor of Ecclesiastick History in the College of Edinburgh, *James Nasmyth* at Dalmeny, *Alexander Douglas* at East Calder, *Andrew Gloug* at West Calder, *Alexander Pyot* at Carridin, *James Robertson* at Edleston, *John Wallate* at Drummelzier, *Stephen Paton* at Newlands, *John Tait* at Kilbucho, *Simon Kellie* at Glenholm, *David Walker* at Temple, *James Paton* at Primrose, *David Hutchison* at Dalkeith, *James Alston* at Dirleton, *Andrew Dickson* at Aberlady, *Andrew Robertson* at Gladsmuir, *John Hamilton* at Strenton, *William Orr* at Spot, *Laurence Johnston* at Dunse, *John Home* at Polwarth, *John Pow* at Lendale, *Alexander Trotter* at Edrum, *Robert Bryden* at Coldinghame, *James Ramsay*



Ramsay at Kello, Robert Colvill at Vetholm, Robert Bell at Creal-  
line, Charles Telfer at Hawick, Robert Riccletson at Hopekirk,  
Walter Scot at Westruther, John Bell at Gordon, David Brown  
at Selkirk, William Bannatyne at Yarrow, Alexander Meekle at  
Langholme, Alexander Orr at Hodhame, Andrew Clark at Thin-  
dergirth, Patrick Cuming at Lochmaben, Robert Wallace at Mos-  
fat, Mungo Gibson at Sanquhar, Alexander Bane at Glencairn,  
John Scot at Holywood, George Duncan at Lochrutton, Edward  
Bunkle at Kirkmahoe, William McKie at Balmaghie, James Row-  
an at Parton, John Welsh at Anwoth, John Millar at Pening-  
hame, James McLellan at Kirk-cowan, Archibald Marshal at  
Kirkholm, Robert Fergusson at Calmonell, Andrew Rodger at  
Galtoun, John M'Dermitt at Air, Robert Fisher at Maybole,  
Robert Millar at St. Quivox, George Reid at Symington, Hugh  
Fauside at Newmilns, John Montgomery at Stewarton, John Ful-  
larton at Dalry, Robert Whedon at Eastwood, Robert John-  
ston at Kilbarchan, Robert Miller at Paisley, Matthew Coukel at  
Kilbride, John Curry at Monkland, Robert Hamilton at Hamil-  
ton, James Dick at Carlisle, Robert Davidson at Crawfordjohn,  
Patrick Scot at Carnwath, John Hamilton at Glasgow, John Mar-  
Laurin there, James Robt at Kilsyth, Niel Campbell Principal of  
the College of Glasgow, John Allan at Row, John Edmonston at  
Cardross, James Robertson at Luss, Walter Campbell at Dunoon,  
Alexander McKay at Kilfinan, John Campbell at Kilanow in Ilay,  
Charles Stewart in Campbeltown, Alexander Campbell in Inverary,  
Patrick Campbell in Northknapdail, Archibald Campbell in Lismore,  
James Campbell at Luine, William Marison at Tince, Patrick We-  
therspoon at Strontian, John Goss at Carrigill, Robert Brown at Rat-  
tray, Adam Fergusson at Logierate, James Fisher at Kincleavin,  
Andrew Darline at Kinnoul, William Moncrieff at Methven,  
William Wilson at Perth, James McKie at Forrester, John Tay-  
lor at Alloa, John Bruce at Airth, John Drummond at Grief,  
William Hunter at Gask, William Hally at Muthill, Michael Pot-  
ter at Kippen, John Fergusson at Port, James Hog at Carnock, Al-  
lan Logan at Culross, William Henderson at Dalgety, James Hen-  
ry at Kinghorn, Elouster Graham at Portmouk, Robert Balfour  
at Ringrie, William Greenleaf at Geres, Josiah Walker at Abdie,  
George Anderson at Dunblair, Thomas Ker at Balmerino, Alex-  
ander Anderson at St. Andrews, Joseph Dren Principal of St. Le-  
onard's College at St. Andrews, John Craigie at Abernethie,  
William Dalgleish in Cambus, James Haddon Principal of the  
new College of St. Andrews, James Ramsay at Bendoctry, John  
Haugh at Kingoldrum, Thomas Smith at Alych, Hugh Maxwell at  
Forfar, John Dugal at Ralshy, James I. Monro at Dundee,  
James Hodge at Longforgan, John Ker at Maun, John Fergusson  
at Aberbrothwick, William Moncrieff at Kinnel, Robert Gray at  
Brichan, George Warrack at Fern, John Cooper at Montrose,  
James Douglas at Arbuthnot, David Bann at Fetheress, An-  
thony

*thony Dow* at Fettertain, *David Anderson* Professor of Divinity in the King's College of Aberdeen, *William Osburn* at Fintray, *Robert Melvil* at Dures, *John Bisset* at Aberdeen, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, *John Osburn* Principal of the Marischal College of New Aberdeen, *Alexander Toash* at Tarland, *Alexander Gariach* at Midmar, *John McInnes* at Crathie, *James Gordon* at Alford, *Adam Oliphant* at Glenbucket, *Andrew Moir* at Towie, *James Burnet* at Ellon, *James Gilchrist* at Foverain, *George Moir* at Kintore, *William Wat* at Inverurie, *Robert Abercrombie* at Lesly, *James Lesly* at Sr Fergus, *Alexander Achinleck* at Frazersburgh, *John Forbes* at Old Deer, *George Johnston* at King-Edward, *William Johnston* at Monwhiter, *Alexander Irvine* at Fordice, and *James Innes* at Banff, Ministers. The most Honourable *John Marquis* of Twedale, the Right Honourable *David Earl* of Buchan, *Thomas Earl* of Haddington, *Charles Earl* of Lauderdale, *James Earl* of Findlater, *Alexander Earl* of Leven, *Alexander Earl* of Marchmont, *James Earl* of Hyndford, *David Earl* of Glasgow, *Archibald Earl* of Ilay, *William Lord* Ross, *James Lord* Torphichen, *George Lord* Reay, *Sir Hugh Dalrymple* of North-Berwick Baronet Lord President of the Session, *Duncan Forbes* Esquire his Majesty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of Ormiston Lord Justice Clerk, *Sir John Maxwell* of Nether Pollock Baronet, *Mr. James Erskine* of Grange, *Sir William Calderwood* of Polton, *Sir Walter Pringle* of Newhall, *Sir Gilbert Elliot* of Minto Baronet, *Mr. Hugh Dalrymple* of Drumore, and *Mr. Patrick Campbell* of Monzie, Eight of the Senators of the College of Justice, *Sir John Clark* of Pennycuik Baronet one of the Barons of his Majesty's Exchequer, *Mr. Charles Erskine* his Majesty's Solicitor, *James Grant* of Grant, *Mr. Patrick Grant* of Elchies Advocate, *Ludovick Dunbar* of Westfield, *James Brodie* of Whitehill, *Mr. Alexander Fraser* of Strichan, *Mr. Alexander Gordon* of Airdoch, *Sir Robert Monro* of Foulis Baronet, *Albert Monro* of Coull, *Hugh Ross* of Braelangweil, Captain *David Ross* of Daan, the Hon. *Mr. John Sinclair* of Brims Advocate, *Archibald MacAulay* Lord Conservator of the Scots Privileges at Campvere, *Sir John Inglis* of Craigmond Baronet, *John Osburn* one of the Bailies of Edinburgh, *Mr. Joseph Cave* Merchant there, *Patrick Lindsay* Esquire Lord Provost of Edinburgh, *John Keir* Deacon Conveener of the Trades in the said City, *George Dundas* of Dundas, *Mr. Alexander Hamilton* of Innerwick, *Mr. John Dundas* of Newhall, the Honourable *Mr. Charles Erskine* of Edenshead Advocate, *Mr. Alexander Menzies* of Coulterallas Advocate, *Mr. James Nasmyth* of Earlsbaugh, the Hon. *Mr. Robert Dundas* of Arncliffe Advocate, *Charles Brown* of Colston, *Mr. George Buchan* of Collegehead Clerk to the Commission of Peinds, *Sir Robert Dalrymple* of Castleton Advocate, *Sir William Baird* of Newbyth Baronet, *Mr. Thomas Hamilton* Advocate, *Mr. John Dickson*



*Dickson* of Antonshill, *Mr. John Swinton* of Swinton Advocate, *Sir Robert Pringle* of Stichel Baronet, *Archibald Douglas* of Cavers, *Mr. Charles Binning* of Pilmore Advocate, *Robert Rutherford* of Fernieles, *Robert Scot* of Burnhead, *Mr. Robert Foord* Baillie of Mosfat, *John Crichton* of Carco, *George Irving* of Newton, *James Currie* Provost of Dumfries, *John Nielson* of Corrack, *John Mac-Aul* in Corsbie, *Captain Andrew Agnew* younger of Lochnaw, *Mr. James Boswell* of Auchinleck Advocate, *John Cuninghame* of Enterkine, the Honourable Colonel *William Dalrymple* of Glenmure, *Mr. Alexander Stevenson* of Montgreenan, *Mr. Hugh Bailly* of Monkton Advocate, *Mr. Alexander Hamilton* of Pancaitland, *Mr. James Hamilton* of Gilchristcleugh, *Mr. James Bailly* of Hardington, *Thomas Hamilton* Chirurgion Baillie in Glasgow, *John Stirling* Provost of Glasgow, *Alexander Finlayson* of Nielstonside, *John Somervell* Baillie of Renfrew, *Ludovick Colquhoun* of Luss, *John Paul* late Baillie of Rutherglen, *Mr. George Smollet* of Inglisfoun, *John Campbell* of Orchard, *John Campbell* late Provost of Edinburgh, *Sir James Campbell* of Ardkinglass Baronet, *Sir James Campbell* of Aberuchil Baronet, *Hector MacLean* of Coll, *Mr. Alexander McMillan* of Dunmore, *Captain John Campbell*, *Alexander Robertson* younger of Easter Straloch, *Patrick Yeaman* of Eastmiln, *Mr. Robert Craigie* of Glendoig Advocate, *John Hay* of Lays, *Colin Brown* present Provost of Perth, *Mr. Alexander Belcher* of Innermay, *Mr. George Abercromby* Advocate, *Mr. Alexander Abercromby* of Tillibodie Advocate, *Alexander Bruce* of Kennet, the Honourable Colonel *John Erskine* of Carnock, *John Cuninghame* of Balbougie, *George Balfour* of Balbirnie, *Mr. Robert Hay* of Naughton, *Mr. James McGill* of Rankeilior, *Mr. Colin Drummond* Professor of Philosophy, *Sir Robert Anstruther* of Balcaskie, *Mr. James Duncan* Professor of Philosophy in the Old College of St. Andrews, *Dr. John Moncrief* of Rungay, *Mr. Charles Gregory* Professor of Mathematicks in the University of St. Andrews, *James Anderson* Merchant in Alith, *Alexander Ferrier* late Provost of Dundee, *James Fairweather* present Provost there, *Alexander Miln* Merchant in Montrose, *William Wallace* late Provost of Aberbrothwick, *Robert Stewart* late Provost of Aberdeen, *Alexander Arbuthnot* of Knox, *William Cruikshanks* Provost of Aberdeen, *George Fordyce* late Provost of Aberdeen, the Honourable *Mr. Arthur Forbes* of Bredaw, *George Sinclair* Baillie in Ellon, *Captain John Forbes* of Boidly, *Mr. Alexander Garden* of Troup Advocate, and the Honourable *Mr. George Ogilvie* Advocate, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of this Assembly, and any Thirty one of them are declared to be a Quorum, whereof Twenty one are always to be Ministers, with Power to them to cognosce, and finally determine as they shall see Cause in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them by any Act or Order of this Assembly, which Commissioners are hereby ordained to convene within the Assembly

sembly House at *Edinburgh*, the first free Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, and afterwards the second *Wednesdays* of *August*, *November* and *March* next, and oftner when and where they shall think convenient; with Power to them to choose their own Moderator. And this General Assembly do hereby renew the Powers granted by the late General Assembly to their Commissioners, by their Act dated the Fourteenth Day of *May* last, intituled, "Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for discussing diverse Affairs referred to them," and the Instructions therein mentioned in all Points: And ordains this Commission to proceed according thereunto: And all Affairs referred to the late Commission not yet finally determined, are hereby remitted to the Commission of this Assembly, to be proceeded in until the same be finished, and this Commission is to report to the next General Assembly.

## VI.

*Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for Management of the King's Bounty for that End.*

*Edinburgh, May 23d 1730. ante merid. Sess. 14.*

**T**HE General Assembly taking to their Consideration the great Extent of many Parishes in the Highlands and Islands of *Scotland*, and that by Reason thereof Ignorance, Popery, Superstition and Vice do abound in many Places therein, and that it has pleased our Gracious Sovereign the King, out of his Royal Bounty, to bestow yearly the Sum of One thousand Pounds *Sterl.* to encourage itinerant Preachers and Catechists to go to the foresaid *Highlands* and *Islands*, for assisting Ministers established there, in giving the People in these Parts such Instruction as is necessary to enlighten and arm them against the Practices of many Popish Priests that resort thither; and finding that diverse Preceeding General Assemblies have appointed some Ministers and Elders for Management of the Royal Bounty for the End foresaid, and it being necessary the like be now done, the General



Assembly do by these Presents nominate, commissionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *William Hamilton* their Moderator, Masters *James Alstoun* at Dirletoun, *William Miller* at Edinburgh, *William Gusthart* there, *David Anderson* Professor of Divinity at Aberdeen, and *Thomas Linnen* at Lismahago his Majesty's Chaplains, *Niel M'Vicar* at West-kirk his Majesty's Almoner, *John Crockett* at Dallas, *Lauchlan Schaw* at Calder, *Alexander Reay* at Avoch, *Robert Monro* at Kincardine, *John Bayne* at Dingwall, *Thomas Frazer* at Boleskine, *Donald M'Leod* at Strath, *Murdo M'Leod* at Glenelg, *Francis Robertson* at Clyne, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *James Smith* at Cramond, *John Walker* at Canongate, *Robert Kinloch* at Edinburgh, *Matthew Crawford* Professor of Ecclesiastick History in the College of Edinburgh, *James Nasmyth* at Dalmeny, *James Paton* at Primrose, *Andrew Dickson* at Aberlady, *William Orr* at Spot, *John Home* at Polwarth, *Patrick Cumine* at Lochmaben, *John Miller* at Penninghame, *Hugh Fauside* at Newmills, *Robert Woodrow* at Eastwood, *Niel Campbell* Principal of the College of Glasgow, *John Allan* at Row, *Alexander M'Kay* at Kilfinan, *Adam Fergusson* at Logierate, *James Henry* at Kinghorn, *James Hadow* Principal of the new College of St. Andrews, *Joseph Drew* Principal of St. Leonard's College there, *Thomas Ayton* at Alyth, *John Fergusson* at Aberbrothwick, *George Chalmers* Principal of the King's College at Aberdeen, *John Osburn* Principal of the Marishal College there, *John M'Innes* at Crathie, *John M'Laren* at Edinburgh, *Robert Sandilands* there, *John Schaw* at Leith, *Samuel Semple* at Libertoun, *James Grierson* at Edinburgh, *James Walker* at Canongate, *John Thurburn* at Kirknewton, *Walter Allan* at Collingtoun, *James Craig* at Edinburgh, *James Nisbet* there, *David M'Gilm* at Duddingston, *John Matthison* at Edinburgh, *James Bannantyne* there, *Matthew Wood* there, *George Fordice* at Corstorphine, *William Brown* at Edinburgh, *Alexander Ker* at Castle-kirk, *John Hepburn* at Edinburgh, *John Spark* at Currie, *James Stevenson* at South-Leith, *George Lindsay* at North-Leith, *George Wishart* at West-kirk, Ministers; The most Honourable *John Marquis* of Tweeddale, the Right Honourable *David Earl* of Buchan, *James Earl* of Finlater, *Alexander Earl* of Leven, *Alexander Earl* of Marchmont, *David Earl* of Glasgow, *Archibald Earl* of Hly, *William Lord Ross*, *George Lord Reay*, *Sir Hugh Dalrymple* of North-Berwick Baronet Lord President of the Session, *Dungair Forbes* Esq; his Majesty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of Ormiston Lord Justice Clerk, Mr. *James Erskine* of Grange, *Sir William Calderwood* of Polton, *Sir Walter Pringle* of Newhall, *Sir Gilbert Elliot* of Minto Baronet, Mr. *Hugh Dalrymple* of Drumore, and Mr. *Patrick Campbell* of Monzie, Seven of the Senators of the College of Justice, Mr. *Charles Erskine* of Barjarg his Majesty's Solicitor, *Archibald M'Aulay* Lord Conservator, *Patrick Lindsay* Lord Provost of Edinburgh, Mr. *Patrick Grant* of Earer Elchies, Mr. *Albert Mon-*

ro of Coul, *John Osburn* Baillie of Edinburgh, *Mr. Joseph Cave* Merchant there, *John Kier* Conveener of the Trades there, *George Dundas* of that Ilk, *Mr. Charles Erskine* of Edenshead, *Mr. Robert Dundas* of Arnistoun Advocate, *Mr. John Swinton* of that Ilk, *Mr. Alexander McMillan* of Dunmore, *Sir James Campbel* of Aberuchil, *Mr. Alexander Belchies* of Innermay, *Mr. George Abercrombie* of Tillibodie, *Colonel John Erskine* of Carnock, *Mr. Alexander Garden* of Troup, *Mr. George Ogilvie* Advocate, *Mr. James Baillie* of Hardington, *John Campbel* late Provost of Edinburgh, *George Drummond* late Provost there, *Mr. John Dundas* of Philpston, *James Grant* of Grant, *Sir Robert Mauro* of Foulis, *James Nimmo* Dean of Gild of Edinburgh, *John Wightman* of Malsly late Provost of Edinburgh, *Mr. Alexander Hamilton* of Rancairland, *Mr. John Dundas* of Newhalls, *Mr. Francis Priestly* Physician, *Mr. John Riddel* Physician, *Mr. Alexander Stevenson* of Montgreenan, *Mr. Robert Stewart* and *Mr. Colin Drummond* Professors of Philosophy in the College of Edinburgh, and *Nicol Spence* Agent for the Church of Scotland, Ruling Elders; to be a Committee of this Assembly, for Reformation of the *Highlands and Islands* of Scotland, and for disposing upon the foresaid Royal Bounty, according to his Majesty's Grant; and the General Assembly do hereby renew the Powers contained in the Seventh Act of the General Assembly One thousand seven hundred and twenty nine, intituled, "Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders" for Reformation of the *Highlands and Islands* of Scotland, and "for Management of the King's Bounty for that End." And the several Acts wherein mentioned; also the Regulations and Act of this Assembly, dated the Twenty second Day of May current, which are ~~herein~~ <sup>are</sup> ~~repeated~~ <sup>repeated</sup>, and say Seven of the foresaid Persons are declared to be a *Synod*, whereof Four are always to be Ministers, and the foresaid Committee are appointed to have their Meetings in *Edinburgh* in the Hall of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowledge, the last *Thursdays* of every Month, at Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, and also the first lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four stated Diets of the Commission of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be on the *Monday* following, with Power to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places as they shall find needful, and with Power to nominate Ministers, Preachers and Catechists to go in Mission to the foresaid Places. And the General Assembly does hereby continue the said *Mr. John Dundas* to be Receiver of the foresaid Royal Bounty, and for laying out the same in the Terms of his Majesty's Grant, and according to the Orders of the foresaid Committee, and which Committee are enjoined to take special Care to observe the whole Directions contain'd in the foresaid seventh Act of the late General Assembly, and the Act above-mentioned in all Points.



## VII.

*Act discharging the Recording of Reasons of Dissent.**Edinburgh, May 25th, 1730. post merid. Sess. 15.*

THE General Assembly appoints, that the Reasons of Dissent against the Determination of Church Judicatures, in Causes brought before them, shall not be entered in the Register, but be kept in *secretis*, to be laid before the Superior Judicatures.

## VIII.

*Act for preventing the spreading of Error.**Edinburgh, May 25th, 1730. post meridiem.*

THE General Assembly recommends it to all the Ministers of this Church, to be careful in their several Charges, to guard against the spreading of any Errors, contrary to our Standards of Doctrine, and condemned by Acts of Assemblies, particularly such as strike against the Fundamentals of our holy Religion.

## IX.

IX.

*Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.*

*Edinburgh, May 26th, 1730. Seff. ult.*

**T**HE next General Assembly of this National Church is appointed to be held at *Edinburgh* upon the first *Thursday* of *May* next to come, being the Sixth Day of that Month, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and thirty one, in this Place, being the ordinary Place of their Meeting.

*The General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, Singing of the LXXII. Psalm from the 1st Verse to the End, and pronouncing of the Blessing.*

*Collected and Extracted from the Records of the General Assembly, by*

*Jo. DUNN, Cleric. Scot.*

OVERTURE

*May 25th, post merid.*

**T**HERE being laid before the Assembly, an Overture proposing, That for hereafter the Members of an Inferior Court, from which an Appeal is brought, shall not be excluded from judging, nor be reckoned Parties, because they gave Judgment when the Cause was tryed before the Inferior Court, reserving all other Grounds of Declinature as Accords; the Assembly does transmit the said Overture to the several Presbyteries of this Church, that they may send their Opinions to the next Assembly, whether it be expedient to pass the same into an Act.



# T A B L E

OF THE

Printed Acts of the General Assembly held in the Year 1730

- I. **THE** King's Commission to Hugh Earl of *Montrose* *duc'd,* and ordered to be recorded, 3
- II. **THE** King's Letter to the General Assembly, 4
- III. The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most Gracious *Letter*, 5
- IV. ACT concerning the Management of the King's Royal Bounty for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, 7
- V. Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for discussing diverse Affairs referred to them, 9
- VI. Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for Management of the King's Bounty for that End, 10
- VII. Act discharging the Repeating of Reasons of Dissent, 16
- VIII. Act for preventing the spreading of *Evil*, 16
- IX. Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly, 17

# ABRIDGMENT.

OF THE  
Acts of the General Assembly of the  
Church of Scotland, held in the Year  
1730, which are not printed.

 Prayer by Mr. James Alison Minister  
at Dirlston, Moderator to the preceeding Gene-  
ral Assembly, The Ministers and Ruling Elders,  
Members of this Assembly, did convene, and  
Mr. William Hamilton Professor of Divinity in the Uni-  
versity of Edinburgh was chosen Moderator, May 14th  
Sess. 1st.

The King's Commission to the Earl of London, to repre-  
sent his Majesty in this Assembly, is produc'd. *Ibid.*

His Grace his Majesty's Commissioner's Speech at opening  
of the Assembly, and the Moderator's in Return there-  
to, recorded. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commissioner having given in to the Assem-  
bly his Majesty's Letter of Gift of one Thousand Pounds  
Sterling, for this Year 1730, towards the reforming the  
Highlands and Islands, the same was read, and ordered  
to be recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Answer to his Majesty's  
Gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Overtures appointed. *Ibid.*

A Committee for Bills, References, and Appeals. *Ibid.*

A Committee is appointed to examine the form of  
Commissions given to the Members of this Assembly,  
by their Constituents and see if they agree with the Acts of  
Assembly, to censure Absents from this Assembly or Diets  
thereof, name Ministers to preach before his Grace his  
Majesty's Commissioner, and to receive in the Lists  
of Probationers and Students of Divinity, that the  
first of these might be recorded, and their Report as to  
Commissions is ordered to be first brought in to the  
Committee for Overtures, and all Letters of Excuse for  
Absence are appointed to be laid before this Commit-  
tee. *Ibid.*

The 21<sup>st</sup> Assembly 1728, for the better dispatching  
of Business, was intimated. *Ibid.*

A Diet is appointed for Prayer. *Ibid.*



# I N D E X

A Diet is spent in Prayer, *May 15. Sess. 2.*

Ministers are named to preach before his Majesty's Commissioner, for the next Lord's Day, and the Sabbath following. *Ibid.*

Some new Commissions are produced, and Additions made to Committees, *May 16. Sess. 3.*

An Answer to his Majesty's Letter is approven and subscribed by the Moderator, and the Lord Commissioner undertakes to convey it to the King under his Cover. *Ibid.*

A Committee is named to receive in from the Commissioners from the several Presbyteries, their Synods and Presbyteries Instructions to them, and any Overtures they have to offer from them, and to class the Matters therein contained, and prepare Overtures therefrom, to the Assembly, and to receive in any Accounts that shall be given to them, of the State of the Church in the North, the Highlands and Islands, particularly concerning the Growth of Popery and Superstition, and consider the same, and prepare Overtures for suppressing and preventing thereof; and likewise, to receive in from the Visitors of the Commission Book, the Returns sent from Presbyteries and Synods, to the late Commission's Letters, and consider the same, and prepare Overtures therefrom: And they were appointed to bring in their Report, first to the Committee for Overtures, that they may fully prepare them for the Assembly. And all Brethren, who had any Instructions or Overtures, from their Synods and Presbyteries were advertised to give them in to the foresaid Committee at their first Diet, and to attend them at all the subsequent Meetings, and confer with them upon the Heads thereof, when they come to consider the same. *Ibid.*

A Committee of Persons out of each Synod, is appointed to revise the Register of the Commission of the late General Assembly, audite the Procurator and Agent's Accompts, consider the State of the Churches Publick-money, and prepare Overtures about the same, agreeable to the 7th Act of Assembly 1712, and the 8th Act of Assembly 1719; and they were ordered to keep close to the Rules laid down in the said Acts: And to that End, the Assembly appointed all Petitions and other Claims whatsoever, for any Share of the Publick-money, to be laid before the said Committee, and appointed the Ingivers of the said Petitions and Claims for

Money,

# I N D E X.

Money, to attend the said Committee: And they were also appointed to prepare any Overtures and References made by the late Commission to this Assembly, but they were desired to discourse with the Moderator, or any of the Members of the Commission, about the Remarks upon their Book, before they bring them in to the Assembly, that nothing but what is material may be brought in. *Ibid.*

A Committee is appointed to revise the Register of the Committee of the late Assembly, entrusted with the Management of his Majesty's Bounty, for Reformation of the Highlands, and the Report of the actings of the said Committee being presented with their Register, the said Report was read, and remitted to the Consideration of the Committee first above named.

Committees were appointed to revise the Registers of the Actings of the Synods of *Ross, Caithness and Sutherland, Lothian and Tweeddale, Merse and Teviotdale, Galloway, Glasgow and Air, Argyle, Perth and Stirling, Fife and Angus and Mearns*, and Presbytery Book of *Latland*; but the Members from the Synods of *Glenalg, Drumfries, and Aberdeen* having signified that their Books were not brought up, the Assembly resolved to enquire into the Reasons thereof when they take in the Reports of the Visitors of the other Books. *Ibid.*

The Receivers of the Books are made Conveeners of the Committees, and a special Regard is ordered to be had to the Rules laid down for visiting of Books, by the Acts of Assembly 1713 and 1723. *Ibid.*

The Assembly resolves to take first under Consideration, the Appeal of the Parish of *Renfrew*, and the Appeals from the Synods of *Aberdeen*, in the Affair of *Old and New Machar*, and to begin with that of *Renfrew*; and in Pursuance of this Resolve the said Affairs were called, and Dyets appointed for hearing of the same. *Ibid.*

It is found, that the late Commission, did not exceed their Powers in the Sentence they pronounced in the Case of *Renfrew*, May 18, *ante* *metid.* Sess. 4.

Mr. John M'Dermitt is continued in the Exercise of his Ministry in the Town and Parish of *Air*, *eadem die post merid.* Sess. 5.

Some new Commissions are produc'd, and Additions made to Committees, May 19, *ante* *merid.* Sess. 6.

A Letter and a Petition for the Lord *Sutton*, relating to the Planting the Parish of *Crimond* presented, and the reading of the Petition delayed, untill the Process to which it relates be brought in. *Ibid.*

The Process for planting the Parish of *Old Machar* called, Papers read, and the Case continued *Ibid.*



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The Affair of *Old-Machar* again moved, Pleadings heard, and the advising delay'd. *Eod. die post merid. Sess. 7.*  
 A Committee is named to consider of Means to advance the Contributions for the *German* and *French* Congregation at *Copenhagen*, and for the Harbour of *St. Andrew's*. *May 20th Sess. 8.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Aberdeen* reversing the Presbytery of *Aberdeen's* Sentence, by which they excluded Principal *Chalmers* from the Lite of Persons proposed for Ministers of *Old-Machar*, and the Synod's Sentence, refusing to sustain the Call given to Mr. *James Burnet*, to be Minister of that Parish, are affirmed. *Ibid.*

Letter from Sir *John Bruce-Hope*, concerning the Planting of the Parish of *Kinross*, is produc'd, and the reading thereof delay'd, until the Process related to therein, come in of Course. *eod. die post merid. Sess. 9th.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, giving a Commission to certain Correspondents, to join with such of the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, as did not concur in the Appeals against the Synod, or would fall from their Appeals, in order to expedite the Settlement of *Old-Machar*, and judge of what related to Principal *Chalmers's* Character, and the Sentence of the said Synod reversing the Presbytery's Sentence as to three of the Elders of *Old-Machar*, as in the Process, are affirmed. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the Committee appointed to revise the Register of the Actings and Proceedings of the Committee of the last Assembly, entrusted with the Management of his Majesty's Bounty, for the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands; the Management of the last mentioned Committee is unanimously approved, and the Members thereof get the Thanks of the Assembly for their Faithfulness and Diligence, and their Register is ordered to be attested in the usual Form. *May 21, ante merid. Sess. 10.*

Letters are ordered to be written to her Grace the Dutchess of *Gordon*, and to the Right Hon. the Earls of *Aberdeen* and *Peterborough*, and other Friends of the most noble Family of *Gordon*, signifying to them the Assembly's great Satisfaction, in the Assurances they were pleased to give, to the late Assembly, and to their Commission, and Committee for Reformation of the Highlands, of their firm Resolution to have all the Children of this most noble Family educated in the Principles of the reformed Protestant Religion, and in Loy-

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# I N D E X.

Loyalty to his Majesty King *George*, and good Affection to the Protestant Succession, in his Royal Family.  
*Ibid.*

The Committee for revising the Register of the actings of the late Committee for Reformation of the Highlands, with some others added to their Number, are appointed to bring in a Nomination of Persons to be Members of such a Committee for this Year, with a Draught of Instructions to them. *Ibid.*

The Affair of *Old-Machar* again called, and Parties fully heard upon the whole Matters contained in the Synod's Reference, and the advising delayed until the Afternoon. *Ibid.*

The Assembly found that the conjunct Meeting of the Presbytery and Correspondents were the only proper Court to judge of what concerned Principal *Chalmers's* Character, and that the Presbytery had no Power to judge of it, so far as concerned his being settled at *Old-Machar*, but were set aside by the Sentence of the Synod, constituting the conjunct Meeting his Judges; and therefore that the Proceedings of the Presbytery in suspending him were void and null, and the Sentence of the conjunct Meeting, declaring the Principal innocent and free from the Accusation brought against him, of his having wrote Letters to his Friends, wherein he advises the carrying on a second Call to him, to be Minister of *Old-Machar*, is affirmed. And likewise, the Principal's Settlement, as one of the Ministers of the Parish of *Old-Machar*, in the Place of *Mt. Mitchel*, is affirmed; and he is declared duly and legally settled in the said Charge; and a Committee is appointed to meet with Parties, concerned in this Affair, and deal with them, towards the reconciling the Differences, that seem to be amongst them, and to bring in an Overture, as to what remains undetermined by the Assembly, and for restoring the Peace of the Church in that Corner. *ead. die, post merid. Sess. 11.*

The Committee for revising the Commission Book having made their Report, the Book is attested in the Ordinary Form, and the Commissioners get the Thanks of the Assembly for their Care and Diligence in what was committed to them, but the Assembly reserved to themselves the Consideration of their Decisions, in the Cases of the Parishes of *Towie*, *New-Machar* and *Hutton*, from which there are Dissents marked in the said Register.  
*May 22d. ante merid. Sess. 12.*



# I N D E X.

Upon Report of the Committee for the Commission Book, the Assembly appointed Professor *Hamilton* their Moderator to subscribe the Registers of the Assembly and Commission 1728, Principal *Wisbeart*, the Moderator thereof, having died before the same were written; and they referred to their Commission, the Consideration of the Appeals entered by Mr. *Charles Chartres* late Minister at *Aberdeen*, and Mr. *Francis Archibald* late Minister at *Guthrie*, which were not discuss'd by the last Commission. *Ibid.*

The Members of the Assembly are appointed to meet by their Synods severally, to name Persons of their respective Synods, to be a Committee for nominating the Members of a Commission of this Assembly, and preparing the Draught of their Commission and Instructions. *Ibid.*

It is referred to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands, to make effectual what is desired by the Presbytery of *Abertarf*, in their Petition to the Assembly, in so far as they shall find just and reasonable; but the Assembly found, that nothing could be done in their Demand of annexing the Parish of *Doors* to their Presbytery, because the Presbytery of *Inverness*, and Synod of *Murray*, who are concerned in that Matter, are not legally list'd, nor acquainted therewith. *Ibid.*

The Matters set forth in the Presbytery of *Long-Island's* Petition, are referred to the Commission and Committee for Reformation of the Highlands, as they are respectively concerned; and they are appointed to consider the same, and do therein for the Encouragement of the fore-said Presbytery what they shall find just and reasonable. *Ibid.*

The Commission is impow'ed to hear, cognosce and determine in the Case of *John Baxter* in the Parish of *Tea-lung* his Marriage with *Janet Mackie*, as they shall judge agreeable to the Law of God in that Respect. *Ibid.*

A List of Persons in the several Synods is brought in, and the said Persons are appointed as a Committee for drawing the Commission to be given by this Assembly, naming the Members thereof, and preparing Instructions for them. *Eod. die, post merid. Sess. 12.*

Upon Report of the Committee for the Affair of the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, the Assembly disapproved of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, for excluding Elders who were not constituent Members of the Presbytery, when any Sentence appealed from was past, and for rejecting the Commissions of Elders for a trifling Informality in their said Commissions; and likewise

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likewise they disapproved of that Part of the Sentence of the conjunct Meeting, inhibiting the Presbytery to proceed against Principal *Chalmers*; upon any new Matters that might arise after the Settlement was completed; and they disapproved of the Proceedings of the Presbytery, in Opposition to the conjunct Meeting, as tending to disturb the good Order and Peace of the Church in that Corner: And therefore the Assembly did enjoin, that all such things be forborn for the future; and they appoint the Moderator for the Time being of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, to call a Meeting of the Synod *pro re nata*, upon Application of any three Ministers of the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, at any Time betwixt and the next Assembly, representing that there is Appearance of Heats and Disorders in that Presbytery, and requiring him to do it, to the End that the Synod may effectually interpose for preventing Disorders or Divisions: And the Assembly declared their Dissatisfaction with the indiscreet and harsh Expressions used by the Parties against one another in the Papers given in on both Sides, and gravely and seriously enjoined them to forbear any thing of that Nature for the future, and to treat one another with brotherly Love and mutual Respect. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the Committee for *New-machar* Affair, the Assembly did appoint the Presbytery of *Aberdeen* to let fall their Complaint against the Determination of the late Commission, concerning the Settlement of Mr. *Thomas Ray* as Minister of *New-machar*, and the Process which they have commenced against him, and to receive the said Mr. *Thomas Ray* as one of their Members at the first Meeting of the Presbytery, at which he shall appear, and so do every thing proper for them, to strengthen his Hands in the Work of the Ministry in that Parish; and the Parties concerned on both Sides did acquiesce in the foresaid Injunctions. *Ibid.*

The Assembly did refuse to reverse the Sentence of the Commission of the Assembly 1728, appointing the Presbytery of *Chirnside* to put Mr. *Robert Waugh* Probationer upon Trials, and proceed in his Settlement as Minister of the Parish of *Hutton*, in respect they found, that the Commission have been empowered to determine finally in that Affair; and did appoint the foresaid Presbytery to settle the said Mr. *Robert Waugh* as Minister of the said Parish, betwixt and the first Day of *July* next to come. *Ibid.*



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Upon reading of Yesternight's Minutes, some Members craved, that their Dissent against the foresaid Judgment of the Assembly, in the Case of the Parish of *Hutton*, might be marked, and many Members declaring it to be their Mind, that the marking of this Dissent might tend to disturb the Peace of the Church, and therefore ought not to be allowed; the Assembly by a Vote, did discharge their Clerk to mark any Dissent in this Matter, *May 23d, ante merid. Sess. 14.*

The Nomination of the Commissioners of this Assembly, and Draught of their Commission, are approved. *Ibid.*

The Nomination of the Members of the Committee for Reformation, and Draught of their Commission, are approved. *Ibid.*

It is referred to the Commission to call, cognosce and finally determine in all Processes and Appeals that shall be regularly brought before them for planting the Parish of *Renfrew*, and any Vacancies in the Churches of the City of *Edinburgh*. *Ibid.*

A Diet is fixed for the Meeting of the Committee for Instructions, and they are appointed to take first under Consideration the Instructions that relate to Doctrine. *Ibid.*

The Assembly did unanimously find the Libel brought against Mr. *Lewis Chapman* Minister at *Alvie* not proven; and therefore they took off the Sentence of Suspension, under which he was laid by the Synod of *Murray*, and did declare the same to be void and null, and did absolve him from the whole Process, and did declare they were highly dissatisfied with the Proceedings of that Synod, and of the Presbytery of *Elgin* in this matter, and they appointed this Sentence to be intimated from the Pulpits of *Elgin* and *Alvie*; and the Assembly discharged the Synod of *Murray* to proceed to any Censure against the Brethren of the Presbytery of *Abernethie*, for their Conduct in this Case of Mr. *Chapman's*, and recommended to the said Synod to be more cautious in attacking the Characters of one another, and in proceeding to censure their Brethren. *Ibid.*

The Assembly refused the Synod of *Murray's* Desire, of dissolving the Presbytery of *Abernethie*, and annexing it to *Aberlone*; and appointed the said Presbytery of *Abernethie* to continue in its present State. *Ibid.*

The Assembly disapproved of the Sentence of the late Commission, dated *May 9th, 1729*, in the Case of the Parish of *Towie*, which reversed the Sentence of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, voiding the Settlement of Mr. *Andrew Moir* at *Towie*, and ordaining Mr. *Alexander Leask* to be put upon

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upon a Lite for Minister of the said Parish, without Prejudice always to the said Mr. Moir's Settlement, the same having now taken Effect, in Virtue of the foresaid Sentence. *Ibid.*

The Commission is impowered to determine in the Settlement of Mr. *Marshall Dysart* Probationer, as Minister of the Parish of *Eccles*, as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Commission to determine in the Question about the Call given to Mr. *Francis Craig* to be Minister of *Kinross*, as they shall find just; and they are impowered to judge in any References or Appeals, that shall come regularly before them, for the speedy planting of that Parish, *May 25th, post merid. Sess. 15.*

The Process and Appeal, with Relation to the Settlement of the Parish of *Dumblane*, is referred to the Commission to be determined in by them, at their first Meeting. *Ibid.*

Mr. *Robert Kettle* late Minister at *Lochlee's* Appeal against the Sentences of the Presbytery of *Brichen*, and Synod of *Angus and Meams*, laying him aside from his Ministry in that Parish, and planting it with another, is referred to the Commission, with Power to them to determine therein as they see just. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of *John Fisher* in *Burnside of Dundonald*, and *Barbara Craig* his Spouse, against the Sentences of the Presbytery of *Air* and Synod of *Glasgow and Air*, finding them not lawfully married, and discharging them to cohabite, is referred to the Commission, with Power to them to determine therein as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

The Commission is impowered to determine in the Appeal of the Parish of *Balsfrone* from the Presbytery of *Dumbarton*, for refusing to moderate in a Call to Mr. *George Sinclair* Probationer alone, to be their Minister, and also to judge in any References or Appeals that shall be brought regularly before them for planting of that Parish. *Ibid.*

'Tis referred to the Commission, not only to judge in the Question, how far the Appeal of Mr. *Charles Chartres* late Minister at *Aberdeen*, against the Sentence of the Synod of *Angus and Meams*, deposing him from the Ministry, does subsist, notwithstanding his Death, but also they are impowered to determine in the Cause itself, as they shall think just, in case they find that the Appeal does subsist. *Ibid.*

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The Case of Mr. *Francis Archibald* late Minister at *Guthrie*, is referred to be determined in by the Commission as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

The Assembly allowed to *Uladislaus Bochwitz*, and *Gabriel Binaszewski*, Lithuanian Students of Divinity at the University of *Edinburgh*, an half Year of their Bursar Salaries, for a *Viaticum*; and they continued the Vacancy of the Bursaries from the first of *January 1731*, to the first of *January 1732*, and they allowed to Mr. *Binaszewski* Two Pounds *Sterl.* more, conform to the Recommendation of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, and they did appoint the said Sums, extending in all to Twenty two Pounds *Sterl.* to be presently advanced by the Procurator for the Church, to be repounded to him by Mr. *John Walker* one of the Ministers of *Canongate*, the present Collector of the foresaid Bursaries, out of the first and readiest of the Money due to the said Collector, by the Deficients, that will be payable at the Term of *Martinmas* next to come, after he shall be reimbursed of the Money he hath already laid out. And the Assembly appointed Mr. *William Gushart* one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, to collect the said Bursaries when they shall fall due, according to this Act. And a Collection was made in the Assembly House, and the Money collected was appointed to be divided betwixt a distressed Minister's Daughter, and Mr. *Bochwitz*, at the Sight of the Moderator. *Ibid.*

The General Assembly upon Report of the Committee for the publick Money, did appoint the Expences of procuring a Grant in Favour of Mr. *Thomas Ker* Minister at *Balmerino*, of Three Chalders of Victual of Bishops Rents, payable out of the Barony of *Naughton*, within the said Parish, to be payed out of the Churches publick Money, in case the said Grant be obtained before the Death of Mr. *James Hay* late Minister there, and they appoint the Procurator and Agent for the Church, in their Stations, to manage the Application for the foresaid Grant gratis. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the Committee appointed to consider the State of the publick Money, the Assembly did reject all new Demands upon the publick Funds, except what has been, or shall be expressly granted by them, on special Considerations, and they did appoint the Commission also to reject all such Demands, till it be known whether there be any Superplus of this Year's Allowance, after paying the Salaries of the Church's publick Servants for this Year, and the Remains of the publick Salaries preceeding *Whitunday* last

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last past, and the Ballances of their last Accompts, *May* 16. 1729; and the said Committee represented to the Assembly, that they had not sufficient Time to adjust the Accompts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, which they were appointed to audite, and they proposed some Overtures concerning the publick Money, but the Assembly not having Time fully to consider the same, they remitted them to the Commission, that they may report their Opinion thereof to the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the foresaid Committee for the publick Accompts, the Assembly appointed One hundred Pounds, *Scots*, to be payed to each of the following Ministers *viz* Mrs. Francis Robertson, Murdo M'Leod, Thomas Fraser and Donald M'Leod, Commissioners to this Assembly from the Presbyteries of Dornoch, Gairloch, Abergarff and Sky out of the publick Money, after former Allowances of the same Kind shall be payed, in regard of the present Vacancies in the above Presbyteries. *Ibid.*

Upon Report of the Committee for Overtures, the Assembly did sustain all the Commissions given to their Members, by their Constituents for this Time, but they recommended to Presbyteries deficient, that they observe more punctually in Time coming, the Acts of Assembly made about giving Commissions to Members of Assembly, and they reserved the discussing of the Objections made to the Right of the Marischal College of Aberdeen, their being represented in Assembly, to another Assembly, the present Assembly being now near an End. *Ibid.*

The General Assembly did again recommend to the Presbyteries concerned, to deal with Deficients in bringing in the Contributions for building a Church in Cairness in Orkney, recommended *May* 11th 1717, and the Churches of *Duirness*, *Ederachillis* and *Tong* in *Strathnaver*, *May* 16th 1724, in *New-York* in *America*, *May* 13th, 1724, and in *Norikoun*, *May* 23d, 1720, renewed *May* 16th, 1729, and the Collection for the *French Protestant Refugees* in *Hildburghausen*, *May* 23d, 1720, all by *Nicol Spence* Collector; The Collection for the Harbour of *Aberbrothwick*, recommended *May* 24, 1724, and Harbour of *St. Andrews*, *May* 16th, 1725, both to *Patrick Lindsay* Lord Provost of *Edinburgh*; for the Harbour of *Bamff*, *May* 18th, 1724, to *John Philip* Auditor in *Exchequer*; for the Bridge of *Ballader*, over *Dev*, *May* 18th, 1726, to *John Osburn* one of the *Bailies* of *Edinburgh*; for the Bridge of *Blackburn*, to *Robert Hamilton* Merchant



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chant in *Edinburgh*; for the Harbour of *Anstruther* Easter, May 18th, 1727, to *John Edmonston* Writer in *Edinburgh* now to *James Donaldson* late Treasurer there; for a Church in the *Enzie*, May 15th, 1728, to *Andrew Gardner* Merchant in *Edinburgh*; for the reformed Protestant German Congregation in *Copenhagen*, May 3d, 1729, to Mr. *Gavin Hamilton* Bookseller in *Edinburgh*; and for the Infirmary for sick and wounded poor, May 11th, 1728, to *David Spence* Secretary to the Bank: And they referred to the Commission to call the Collectors to an Account, and to enquire how these Contributions are applied, and to lay a State thereof before the next General Assembly; and the Assembly resolved for themselves, and did discharge the Commission to grant any Recommendations for new publick Collections. *Ibid.*

The Assembly did reject and refuse the Petition of the Heritors, Merchants and Inhabitants of the Town and Parish of *Eymouth*, Craving a Collection for building their Harbour. *Ibid.*

The Assembly did again earnestly recommend to the Presbyteries and Parishes in the Bounds of the Synods of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Argyle*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, and *Galloway*, who are deficient in bringing in the Collection for building the Bridge of *Blackburn*, in the Sheriffdom of *Linlithgow*, according to a former Recommendation of the Assembly, May 23d, 1720, yet to pay in their Contributions to *Robert Hamilton* Merchant in *Edinburgh* the Collector thereof, with all Diligence; and they referred to their Commission to call for the Accounts of the said Collections from the foresaid Collector, and the List of Deficients, and appointed them to write pressing Letters to the Presbyteries and Ministers concerned, to forward the Contributions, that so necessary a Work, which is already far advanced, may not be again ruined, to the great Prejudice of the Country. *Ibid.*

The Assembly recommended the lamentable Circumstances of the Widows and Orphans of the poor Fishermen belonging to the Bounds of the Presbytery of *Fordoun*, who perished in the great Storm of Wind which happened upon the 21. of February 1730, to the Christian Charity of the several Parishes within the Bounds of the Synods of *Fife* and *Angus* and *Mearns*; and until the Collections come in, they recommended to the Ministers and Sessions within the Bounds of the Presbytery of *Fordoun*, to advance in Loan, out of their Poor's Boxes, something for  
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Relief of the said poor Widows and fatherless Children, to be repayed when the Collections come in. *Ibid.*

The Case of *Katharine Campbell* Widow of *Alexander Buchan* late Minister at *St. Kilda*, is recommended to the Commission, that they may do for her Relief what they can. *Ibid.*

The Assembly recommended to their Commission to hear Mr. *Henry Robin*, on what he has to say, for his being admitted to Sealing Ordinances; but he is not to be heard against the Sentences of Deposition past against him by the General Assemblies and Commissions of this Church. *Ibid.*

The Consideration of the Matters set forth in the Petition of the Presbytery of *Skye*, is referred to the Commission and Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* respectively, with Power to them to do therein as they shall see Cause. *Ibid.*

The Matters represented in the Petition of the Presbytery of *Gairloch* are referred to the Consideration of the Commission and Committee for the *Highlands* respectively, with Power to do therein as they shall see Cause. *Ibid.*

The Assembly renewed their former Recommendations to Deficients in Favour of *Hugh MacAlexander* late of *Dalrioch*, to continue only to the first of *November* next. *Ibid.*

The Assembly did instruct and impower their Commission to receive in, and judge in any References or Appeals that shall come regularly before them, about planting the Parish of *Kiltearn*.

The Appeal of the Parishioners of *Marykirk*, from the Procedure of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, with relation to the planting of that Parish, is referred to the Commission, with Power to them to determine in that Matter, as they shall find just. *Ibid.*

The Case of Mr. *John Keith* Minister at *Walls* and *Flotta* in *Orkney*, as set forth in his Petition, is referred to the Commission, that they may do in the Matter as the Assembly themselves might do. *Ibid.*

The Desire of the Petition of *Duncan M'Doual* Soldier, for a charitable Collection, is refused, in Respect the Petitioner is not certified and recommended according to the Acts of Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Petition of Mr. *Robert Sandilands*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, being neither signed nor given in, in due Time to the Committee for Bills, the Assembly thought fit to do nothing hereon, as not being concerned in the Matter. *Ibid.*



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The Assembly recommended Mr. *Daniel Monro*, and Mr. *John MacLennan* Students of Divinity having *Irish*, to their Commission, to be provided in Bursaries, and also did appoint Mr. *Donald Ross* Student in Divinity to be put on Trials, in order to his being licensed, if found duly qualified, and did recommend him for that End to the Presbytery of St. *Andrews*, after they have made all proper Enquiries about him. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Murray* is ordered to be attested, with a Disapprobation of their Procedure in stating a Vote, whether they should approve or not of the Proceedings of the Commission, in the Case of a Transportation, and in passing an Act appointing that Intrants shall undergo a Synodical Examination before Presbyteries admit them to Trial. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale* and *Merse* and *Teviotdale* are ordered to be attested in the common Form; but the Synod Books of *Glenelg*, *Caithness* and *Orkney*, *Galloway*, *Drumfries*, *Glasgow* and *Air*, *Aberdeen* and *Argyle*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, not being brought up, the Brethren from the foresaid Synods and Presbytery offered their Excuses, which were admitted for this Time, but they were enjoined to bring their Books to be examined by the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Assembly discharged their Clerk to give up the Synod Book of *Merse* and *Teviotdale*, until it be made appear that they have payed up their Proportion of the Allowance given to the *Lithuanian* Students for their Subsistence, and the Assembly appointed that Synod to pay up all that is due to them, conform to Yesterday's Resolve, and refer'd to their Commission to see that this be performed. *May 26. 1730. ante merid. Sess. ult.*

The Assembly empowered their Commission, to dispose of the Books lately gifted to this Church, for Presbyterial Libraries in the Highlands and Islands, and to prosecute their former Resolutions for the better Disposal of Presbyterial Libraries, formerly allowed to some Lowland Presbyteries, which do not appear to need them, and have not observed the Acts of Assembly about them; and they appointed all Presbyteries, to whom such Publick Libraries have been allowed by former Assemblies, to report to the Commission their Diligence in observing the Acts of Assembly relating thereto, and enjoined the Commission to report to the next Assembly, the State of the

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the Libraries, and proper Overtures relative thereto. *Ibid.*

The Reference of the Assembly 1725 to their Commission, concerning Sir *Nicolas Trot's* Book, is renewed, and 'tis remitted to the Commission to consider what Encouragement may be proper to be given, towards the publishing of his *Clavis linguae sanctae*, and do in that Matter as they shall judge expedient. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Ross, Perth and Stirling, Angus and Mearns*, and *Fife*, are ordered to be attested in the usual Form. *Ibid.*

The General Assembly appointed the Presbytery of *Deer*, to proceed in moderating a Call, for planting the Parish of *Crimond*, not excluding Mr. *William Hay* from the Lite, and to give Judgment upon it, and that on or before the last Thursday of *July* next, and enjoined them, not to regard any Objections, concerning Concussion and Simony, or other Grounds for excluding him, tho' relevant, except a direct Proof thereof be adduced; and they remitted to the Commission to judge and finally determine, in any Appeal or Reference, that shall be brought regularly before them, concerning the planting of the said Parish. *Ibid.*

The Assembly recommended Mr. *Colin Campbel* Student in Divinity, to their Commission for a Bursè, to assist him to prosecute his Studies, he producing to them sufficient Testimonials. *Ibid.*

Lists of Probationers and Students of Divinity were brought in, and the List of Probationers was read, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee is appointed to revise the Minutes of this Assembly, and give Orders for printing such of the Acts thereof, as are to be standing Rules, and are of publick Use. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Days *Sedorunt* were read, the Minutes of preceeding *Sederunts* having been formerly read, at the respective Diets subsequent to each Day's Proceedings. *Ibid.*

The Moderator spoke to the Assembly, and to his Majesty's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commissioner made a Speech in Return, and then the Assembly was concluded. *Ibid.*

## F I N I S.